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examination of the application, please enter this Preliminary Amendment, which responds to the issues raised in the Final Office Action. The 3 month shortened statutory period for the response to the Final Office Action is set to expire on September 1, 1999, and therefore, the filing of the CPA and this Preliminary Amendment is being done within the shortened statutory period.

In response to the Official Action dated September 1, 1998, the Applicants wish to amend the Patent Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend Claims 1, 11 and 15 as follows:

B.1 *Sub D* 1. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for providing scheduling of a plurality of tasks of more than one application among processes in [at least] more than one computing node, each node having a plurality of local processes, comprising:

scheduler means for dynamically creating a prioritized schedule of said plurality of tasks of said more than one application; and

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at least one local scheduler associated with each of said more than [said at least] one computing node comprising means for ascertaining which of said plurality of tasks are assigned to each of said plurality of local processes and means for prioritizing said assigned processes in accordance with said prioritized schedule.

Sub 11. (Twice Amended) A method for scheduling a plurality of tasks of more than one application among processes on [at least] more than one computing node, in a system having scheduler means and [at least] more than one computing node, each computing node having a plurality of local processes comprising the steps of:

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providing application information to scheduler means;

dynamically creating a prioritized schedule of said plurality of tasks, said schedule including tasks of said more than one application;

determining correspondence between said plurality of tasks and said plurality of local processes; and

dynamically prioritizing said local processes in accordance with said prioritized schedule.
